Pending FDI cases in FIPB

1802. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 200 foreign direct investment cases are pending in FIPB for approval; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to be taken for speedy approval of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The pendency position in respect of FDI proposals varies on a daily basis, as receipt and disposal of FIPB applications is a continuous process. Government has put in place a transparent and time-bound approval mechanism for dealing with proposals involving Foreign Direct Investment. Under this mechanism, information at all stages of the application is available on the department's website *viz.* www.dipp.nic.in. The agenda for the weekly meetings of the FIPB held on Thursdays are posted on the website by preceding Monday of the week. All applications registered before Wednesday of a week, if complete in every respect, are listed for the meeting of the FIPB on Thursday of the following week. The cases approved by the Board are also posted on the website. Government's decision on proposals before the Board is normally communicated within six weeks. The date of despatch of letters is also available on the website.

Quota for production of tobacco in Karnataka

1803. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the land in hectares under cultivation of tobacco in Karnataka during the year 2001;

(b) the quantity of tobacco grown during 2001 in Karnataka;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Tabacco Board has asked the growers to grow only 48 million kgs. of tobacco during the year 2001;

(d) if so, the reasons for reducing 10 million kgs. of tobacco being grown in Karnataka; and